

SENATE RESOLUTION 75
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Marshall Ira Shanks
of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Mr. Marshall Ira Shanks; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Shelby County, Mr. Shanks was a highly respected member of the greater Memphis community; and

WHEREAS, born on August 10, 1950, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Shanks and brother of James and Sylvia, Marshall Ira Shanks was a 1968 graduate of Manassas High School and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science at Tennessee State University, where he was a four-year member of TSU's Aristocrat of Bands and Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He furthered his education at Memphis State University where he completed his graduate studies in the area of city and regional planning; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks served with acumen and alacrity as principal Planner for Finance and Business Development at the Memphis and Shelby County Office of Planning and

Development, where he was responsible for the development at the Commercial Revitalization Program; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, when he moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and began employment with the Broward County Planning Department. He later served as Director of Business Development and Research for the East Broward Medical Center with its founder and CEO, Dr. Samuel Hunter; while in Fort Lauderdale, Mr. Shanks also served as CEO of the Atlantic Medical Management Corporation; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, he returned to Memphis and resumed his meritorious service with the City of Memphis, Office of Planning and Development, working there until his untimely death; and

WHEREAS, a consummate professional, Marshall Shanks received many awards and honors, including the Office Director's Award in 1995 for his work in developing and managing the Memphis Technical Assistance and Resource Center, the Memphis Chapter of Black Business Association's Benny Award for Outstanding Minority Business Development in 1997, and its Presidential Award in 1998; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Marshall Shanks was also elected as the Chairman-Elect of the Black Business Association of Memphis, an affiliate of the National Black Chamber of Commerce; he was also recently honored as Employee of the Month for the Memphis and Shelby County Office of Planning and Development; and

WHEREAS, Marshall Ira Shanks was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents and siblings, Mr. Shanks is survived by his former wife, Sharilyn Draper, and his three children, Nicole, Ilana, and Sterling; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Shanks leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Mr. Marshall Ira Shanks, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Shanks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.